17. Social-Linguistics/Language Teaching including Methodology of teaching Languages.

18. Problems of Higher Education including Management.

National award for Railway Welfare Programme

1739. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce national award for doing outstanding work in promoting family welfare programme; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) A scheme of National Family Welfare awards for the best performing States/Union Territories is already in operation since 1982-83. The criteria adopted for selection of States for the year 1984-85 is given in Statement (*see below*). Schemes for giving national awards to outstanding voluntary organisations and voluntary workers and officials and non-officials and family welfare functionaries are being worked out

Statement

Cash incentive to best performing States in the field of F.W. Programme—Criteria proposed to be adopted for deciding the Award winning States/UTs during 1984-85.

I. For States having population over one crore according to 1981 Census.

1. States will be classified into 3 groups A, B & C of 5 States each according to the level of couple protection rate as on 1-4-84 arranged in the descending order.

2. Only those States will qualify for Award which have achieved during the year 1984-85.

(1) A minimum level of achievement of Family Planning targets for various methods and overall equivalent sterilisation for the year 1984-85 to be determined by the Central Government.

(2) A minimum of 1.5 per cent point increase in the Couple Protection rate over the previous year.

3. For ranking the States which qualify for the award as per eligibility criteria ii (a) and (b) above, the performance of the States will be evaluated on the basis of the following components:

(1) Percentage of targets achievement during the year 1984-85 in terms of equivalent sterilisations.

(2) A minimum of 1.5 per cent rate as compared to the increase in couple protection rate at the national level.

(3) Improvement in performance in terms of percentage achievement of targets during 1984-85 vis-a-vis percentage achievement of targets in terms of equivalent sterilisations in 1983-84.

4. The index based on criteria mentioned in para (iii) above will be further moderated for quality as judged by the reports received from the evaluation teams during the year 1984-85. The final ranking will be done on the basis of this adjusted index.

II. For States/UTs having population of less than one crores according to 1981 Census.

1. The States/UTs will be grouped into two groups (D and E) as under:—

Group D : States/UTs having population of less than 10 lakhs.

Group E: States/UTs having population of less than 10 lakhs.

2. The criteria for judging the States/UTs. performance and their eligibility for the award will be the same as for the States having population of one crore and above.

fGrouping of States/UTs. for cash awards, 1984-85 (on the basis of C.P.R. as (on 1-4-1984).

Group A : Maharashtra, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat & Kerala.

Group B : Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Karnataka & West Bengal.

Group C : Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Rajasthan, Bihar & Uttar Pradesh.

Group :D : Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura, Manipur, Meghalaya, & Goa, Daman & Diu.

Group E : Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Pondicherry, Mizoram, Chandigarh Sikkim, A&N Islands, D & N Haveli & Lakshadweep.

Route rationalisation of the air services

1740. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 247 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th August, 1985 regarding route rationalisation of the air services and state·

(a) whether the Committee appointed to study and recommend route rationalisation of the services if the Air India, Indian Airlines and Vayudoot has submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when the report is expected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER)· (a) to (c) A Committee has been set up to examine the feasibility of a joint fleet and route rationalisation for augmenting efficiency and better utilisation of aircraft and equipment. By its very nature, this is a time consuming exercise. Action is being taken on the ideas thrown up by this Committee, in a phased manner. For example, Air India has already started carrying passengers on the domestic leg of its international services and Indian Airlines has started operating to Bangkok.

New aircraft for the Indian Airlines

1741. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) wheher Government have taken a decision with regard to the number of new aircraft to be purchased to increase the fleet strength of the Indian Airlines during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) No new aircraft is proposed to be purchased by Indian Airlines during the current financial year. Indian Airlines have, however, issued a Letter of Intent for the purchase of 31 Airbus A320 aircraft (19 on firm basis and 12 on option), delivery of which will be made in 1989-90.

Interest of West German firm in the Ship Building Industry

1742. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a West German firm has evinced keen